

For Immediate Release
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Contact: Kathy Lunsford, 240-777-4210

EMPTY PLACE AT THE TABLE HONORS THE LIVES OF VICTIMS MURDERED IN ACTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Two Victims to Speak at Special Presentation on October 5th

Two survivors of domestic violence will speak, and one will sing, at a ceremony on Wednesday, October 5th for the presentation of "An Empty Place at the Table," an exhibit that honors the lives of victims murdered in acts of domestic violence. They will be joined by elected officials, victim's families, and domestic violence prevention advocates. Some family members of victims will be available to speak to the press.

The Empty Place at the Table exhibit seeks to enhance the public's understanding of the impact of domestic violence on both families and communities. The table has individual place settings created by family and friends that represent the loss of their loved one. In addition to increasing awareness, organizers hope to achieve a greater commitment from individuals and communities to end domestic violence.

**WHERE: Kentland's Mansion
 320 Kent Square
 Gaithersburg**

WHEN: 7 p.m.

The Empty Place at the Table exhibit will also be on display around Montgomery County throughout National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. Artwork crafted by victims, children exposed to domestic violence who participate in the Safe Start children's groups, and families who have sought safe haven at the Betty Ann Krahnke Center shelter, will also be displayed.

In Montgomery County, the exhibit and mixed media art work of victims will be on display:

**Saturday and Sunday, October 1 and 2
10 am to 5 pm
Bohrer Park Activity Center, Gaithersburg**

**Saturday and Sunday, October 8 and 9
10 am to 6 pm
Westfield Montgomery shopping center, Bethesda**

**Saturday and Sunday, October 15 and 16
10 am to 6 pm
Westfield Wheaton shopping center, Wheaton**

Book displays and information tables will be at the Davis, Gaithersburg, Quince Orchard, Rockville and Wheaton libraries throughout October.

The exhibits were organized by Montgomery County's Abused Persons Program and sponsored by Child Welfare Services, County Councilmember Marilyn J. Praisner, the Elise Martin Crosby Scholarship Fund, the State's Attorney's Office, the Metropolitan Center for Assault Prevention, the Montgomery County Police Department, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, the National Center for Children and Families, Remembering the True Victims foundation, the Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program, and the Victims' Services Advisory Board.

For more information about the Montgomery County Empty Place at the Table exhibits, contact Kathy Lunsford at 240-777-4210.

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